



Message 12 – Responsibility With Grace – 01/23/2010

When you are a kid, you can't stand it. When you are a teenager, you do it just because you are made to. When you are an adult, you do it and forget it when you leave at the end of the day. When you are an older adult, you retire to get away from it all.

What am I talking about? Work of course!

I know why we have to take care of our every day needs with work on your job and at home, but why must we do it with such grace? It seems easy to give no effort and to get by with the minimum. But as we all know, there is a lot of work involved in getting out there, being responsible, and taking care of business, with success in all of it as the goal.

In the midst of all the required responsibilities, I hope that I get you to see a couple thoughts from this. To try and bring my point out more, I will make this into two scenarios:

The first person does all the required work, but with an attitude and resent to everyone around them. They take on the essential "do what I have to" attitude, while having no concept of charity.

The second person realizes that while work is work, that work is not the boss of their life, and they can still enjoy life with love and laughter.

My question is, which person do you feel like you are drawn to? It could be both, or you might be somewhere in between, just disgusted with it all. I could talk more and more about natural responsibility, but that's not what this ministry is all about. I'm talking about your responsibility to God and the church.

Responsibility is knowing and doing what both God and others are expecting from you:

Ephesians 6:5

“Servants, be obedient to them that are [your] masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ”

In hindsight, we need to remember that we are not here just for ourselves, despite popular opinion telling you alone to grab life by the horns, to live it up for yourself. That's just not how it works. There are others that need you to be everything that you can be always. We do not have time to be anything otherwise!

Responsibility is realizing the importance of the task assigned to us:

Ephesians 6:6

“Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart”

In all of the things we do, remember who you are serving. I'm not working to serve money; it just happens to be a benefit of my responsibility. I don't do what I do to earn the popular opinion; I'll never win the hearts of everyone, being since I cannot make everyone like me all at the same time. I do what I do in my life in service to my God and the people that surround me. I want those around me to succeed, but I want God to be pleased with all that I do. Let God run the rule in your life, and he'll make those things you need to work around you be successful!

Responsibility is having a clear conscience before God and man:

1 Corinthians 4:5

“Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”

Each day we live, we are writing another page to our life book. That which we leave behind is all that will be remembered, if at all. If anything, the things that I want to be remembered for is being a friend of God and a Godly friend to you, showing love and compassion as God did to me. It's not the objects you leave that make an impact, it's by your example and the testimony of what impact you made to others.

Of course, I rambled over on this devotional, but remember this: that and who you are responsible for matters, and YOU matter! But God should matter most, and he'll equip you with the provision you ask for!

God Bless You!!!